

Message Text

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ORIGIN SAB-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /048 R

DRAFTED BY S/AB:DLAZAR
APPROVED BY ARA/PAN:RRWYROUGH
S/AB:AMBASSADOR BUNKER
S/AB:AMBASSADOR LINOWITZ
ARA/AND:AFULLER(SUBSTANCE)
-----190011Z 126873 /61
O R 182311Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061059

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN, CO, VE

SUBJECT: BUNKER-LINOWITZ VISIT

1. IF GOV, GOC HAVE NO OBJECTION, WE PROPOSE TO ISSUE LOW-
KEY ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISIT OF AMBASSADOR BUNKER AND
AMBASSADOR LINOWITZ. ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE AT NOON
STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING THE DAY OF THEIR DEPARTURE.
PROPOSED TEXT FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN QUOTE. AMBASSADOR BUNKER AND AMBASSADOR LINOWITZ
ARE LEAVING TODAY FOR A BRIEF TRIP TO VENEZUELA AND
COLOMBIA. THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP IS TO BRIEF THE
PRESIDENTS OF THOSE TWO COUNTRIES -- PRESIDENT CARLOS
ANDRES PEREZ OF VENEZUELA AND PRESIDENT ALFONSO LOPEZ
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MICHELSON OF COLOMBIA -- ON THE STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS
WITH PANAMA ON A NEW CANAL TREATY. THIS WAS ARRANGED IN
RESPONSE TO THE EXPRESSED INTEREST OF THOSE TWO GOVERNMENTS
IN A BRIEFING AND BECAUSE OF THEIR DEEP INTEREST IN THE
CANAL QUESTION. THEY WILL BE IN CARACAS ON THE 24TH, IN
BOGOTA ON THE 25TH AND 26TH AND WILL RETURN TO WASHINGTON
ON THE 27TH. END QUOTE.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE POSTS CLEARING ABOVE WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS ASAP AND ADVISING DEPARTMENT WHEN CLEARANCE HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

FOR CARACAS:

4. FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR NEGOTIATORS IN CARACAS.

BEGIN QUOTE. ARRIVAL STATEMENT. WE ARE PLEASED TO BE IN CARACAS FOR THIS SHORT VISIT, IN ORDER TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER, IN RESPONSE TO THEIR EXPRESSED INTEREST IN HEARING FROM US FIRST-HAND OUR VIEW OF THE COURSE OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH PANAMA FOR A NEW CANAL TREATY.

PRESIDENT CARTER HAS PLACED A HIGH PRIORITY ON THE NEGOTIATION OF A NEW TREATY BASED ON THE EXTENSIVE PREPARATORY WORK OF THE PAST THREE ADMINISTRATIONS. OUR MOST RECENT FORMAL SESSION ON THE ISSUE WAS HELD IN PANAMA LAST MONTH.

WE ARE, OF COURSE, AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PANAMA CANAL TO ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE HEMISPHERE, AND THEREFORE FELT IT APPROPRIATE TO RESPOND TO THE DESIRE OF THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT TO BE INFORMED OF OUR PROGRESS AT THIS STAGE.

FOR BOGOTA:

5. ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR USE IN BOGOTA, IF DESIRED, WILL
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FOLLOW. PLEASE ADVISE.

VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, PN, CO, VE, (BUNKER), (LINOWITZ), (PEREZ, CARLOS ANDRES), (MICHELSON, ALFONSO LOPEZ)
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